

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 192124
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY (TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE)

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S:DANDERSO4

NEA:HHSAUDERS

S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

-----019034 292015Z /70

O 291956Z JUL 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACIT IMMEDIATE

SECRET STATE 192124

NODIS
CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR PERP PGOV EG IS US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO SADAT'S LETTER

REF: CAIRO 17776

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
FOR PRESIDENT SADAT.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

YOUR LETTER OF JULY 26 REACHED ME AT A TIME WHEN
MY COLLEAGUES AND I ARE IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARING
FOR A SERIOUS FURTHER INITIATIVE TO HELP ACHIEVE
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 192124

I DEEPLY APPRECIATE HAVING YOUR CANDID THOUGHTS
AT THIS IMPORTANT MOMENT. IF WE ARE TO BE ABLE

TO REACH OUR COMMON GOALS, WE MUST KNOW EACH OTHER'S
VIEWS. AS WE WORK TOGETHER CLOSELY IN THE DAYS AHEAD,

I KNOW THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO COMMUNICATE WITH ONE ANOTHER IN THE SPIRIT OF OUR MEETINGS AT CAMP DAVID.

MR. PRESIDENT, I CAN WELL UNDERSTAND AND SYMPATHIZE WITH THE CONCERN THAT YOU MUST FEEL OVER THE SLOWNESS OF PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. YOUR EFFORTS FOR PEACE HAVE BEEN UNPRECEDENTED IN THE HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT. THEY HAVE WON YOU THE RESPECT AND ADMIRATION OF PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE AROUND THE GLOBE.

MR. PRESIDENT, I KNOW YOU SHARE MY VIEW THAT WE MUST PERSEVERE TOGETHER DESPITE THE SLOW PACE OF PROGRESS TO THIS POINT. UNLESS WE DO, WE WILL BE PLAYING DIRECTLY INTO THE HANDS OF THOSE WHO WANT TO SEE US FAIL.

FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE, THE TALKS AT LEEDS CASTLE WERE A USEFUL STEP, EVEN THOUGH THEY DID NOT REFLECT A CHANGE IN POSITIONS ON THE MOST DIFFICULT ISSUES. NEGOTIATIONS MOVED BEYOND GENERAL PRINCIPLES TO EXPLORE SOME OF THE CONCRETE ISSUES INVOLVED IN BRINGING THE ISRAELI MILITARY OCCUPATION TO AN END AND ESTABLISHING RELIABLE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS THAT WILL HELP MOVE THE SITUATION IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA TOWARD PEACE. DIFFERENCES CLEARLY REMAIN ON IMPORTANT POINTS, BUT WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RESOLVE THESE DIFFERENCES UNLESS WE CAN CON-

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 192124

TINUE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. ONCE WE HAVE CLEARLY ISOLATED THROUGH THE NEXT NEGOTIATION THOSE ISSUES ON WHICH EGYPT AND ISRAEL CAN AND CANNOT AGREE, WE WILL PROCEED AS WE HAVE DISCUSSED.

AS YOU KNOW, I HAVE COMMITTED THE UNITED STATES TO AN ACTIVE AND EFFECTIVE ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS. AS I WRITE THESE WORDS, I HAVE OUR MEETING OF LAST FEBRUARY AT CAMP DAVID CLEARLY IN MIND. I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT IT REMAINS MY FIRM DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE ON THE COURSE DISCUSSED AT THAT TIME, AND THAT I REMAIN STEADFAST AND UNCHANGED IN MY VIEWS ON THE NATURE OF A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOUR WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE BE OBVIOUS IN ORDER FOR ME TO FULFILL THIS COMMITMENT WITH ANY HOPE OF SUCCESS. FOR US TO PROCEED IN A VACUUM COULD RESULT IN OUR FAILURE, AND I KNOW THAT NEITHER YOU NOR WE WANT THAT RESULT. THEREFORE, IF I AM TO BE ABLE TO FOLLOW THE APPROACH I HAVE OUTLINED, I NEED YOUR COMMITMENT TO CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS. AT LEAST ONE SUBSTANTIVE SEQUEL TO THE DISCUSSIONS AT LEEDS CASTLE IS OF HIGHEST IMPORTANCE.

I THEREFORE HOPE YOU WILL AGREE TO HAVE FOREIGN
MINISTER KAMEL AND GENERAL GAMASY JOIN SECRETARY VANCE
AND FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN AND DEFENSE MINISTER WEIZMAN FOR
ANOTHER ROUND OF TALKS DURING WHICH IT IS THE INTENTION
OF THE UNITED STATES TO BEGIN TO PUT FORWARD ITS OWN IDEAS.
SECRETARY VANCE WILL BE COMING TO CAIRO SHORTLY TO DISCUSS
WITH YOU IN DETAIL OUR STRATEGY, AND HE WILL CARRY WITH
HIM AN IMPORTANT PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM ME TO YOU.
HOWEVER, BEFORE I ASK HIM TO MAKE FINAL PLANS FOR HIS
TRIP, I HOPE I CAN BE ASSURED THAT YOU WILL AGREE TO
ANOTHER ROUND OF TRILATERAL TALKS. I UNDERSTAND, MR.
PRESIDENT, THE DIFFICULTY YOU HAVE IN JUSTIFYING THESE
MEETINGS AND YOUR CONCERN THAT THERE BE NEW ELEMENTS IF
NEGOTIATIONS ARE TO SUCCEED. I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 192124

WE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO SEE THAT NEW ELEMENTS
ARE INTRODUCED AND TO HELP RESOLVE THE DIFFERENCES THAT
NOW EXIST ON SEVERAL KEY ISSUES. OUR DETERMINATION IS TO
BRING THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO AN EARLY AND SUCCESSFUL CON-
CLUSION.

I KNOW THAT YOU WANT TO GIVE EVERY CHANCE OF
SUCCESS TO YOUR HISTORIC INITIATIVE TO BRING PEACE TO
THE MIDDLE EAST. I SHARE THE HOPE THAT PROGRESS
TOWARD THAT GOAL CAN SOON BE MADE AND I HOPE THAT WE
WILL STAY IN VERY CLOSE TOUCH IN THE DAYS AHEAD. AS YOU
SO RIGHTLY OBSERVE, NONE OF US CAN ASSUME THE TERRIBLE
RESPONSIBILITY OF LETTING THIS UNIQUE CHANCE FOR PEACE
FADE AWAY. I AM CONFIDENT THAT, WORKING HAND IN HAND,
WE CAN REACH THE GOALS THAT HAVE SO FAR ELUDED US.

SINCERELY. END TEXT.

3. AFTER DISCUSSING THIS TEXT WITH THE PRESIDENT, THE
SECRETARY ASKS THAT YOU underscore THE PRESIDENT'S NEED
FOR AT LEAST ONE MORE SUBSTANTIVE SESSION SUCH AS WE ARE
PROPOSING, AS THE TEXT ITSELF STATES.

4. IN DELIVERING ABOVE, YOU SHOULD ALSO FIND A WAY TO
PASS TO SADAT JUDGMENT AT HIGH LEVELS HERE THAT SADAT'S
ATTACKS ON BEGIN, HIS MOVES SUCH AS EXPELLING ISRAELI
COMMUNICATIONS TEAM, AND OTHER STATEMENTS GIVING IMPRES-
SION SADAT IS CLOSING DOOR TO NEGOTIATIONS ARE HAVING
THE EFFECT IN ISRAEL OF STRENGTHENING BEGIN'S SUPPORT
AND THE EFFECT HERE OF TARNISHING SADAT'S PREVIOUSLY
VERY BRIGHT IMAGE. REALIZE EILTS HAS ALREADY MADE THIS
POINT BUT AS NEW STATEMENTS ARE MADE IN CAIRO, YOU SHOULD
KNOW FOR YOUR OWN BACKGROUND THAT DISILLUSIONMENT WITH

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 05 STATE 192124

SADAT IS MOUNTING HERE AT HIGH LEVELS AND IN THE CONGRESS.

IN THIS CONNECTION, CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO SENTENCE IN
TEXT SAYING IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT SADAT'S WILLINGNESS TO
NEGOTIATE BE OBVIOUS. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, PEACE PLANS, NEGOTIATIONS, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 07-29-78
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE192124
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: OA
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840140-2103
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978076/aaaaaeor.tel
Line Count: 180
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9c039e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 78 CAIRO 17776
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2006109
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO SADAT'S LETTER
TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, PGOV, PPDC, US, EG, IS, (SADAT, ANWAR), (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9c039e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014